

File

Executive Director and Chairman's Reports: Thursday, September 24, 1998

1. **Call to Order/Attendance.**
2. **Public Comments.**
3. **Minutes of the July 23, 1998 Meeting.**
4. **Chairman's Report.**

PAT: The legislation extending the Commission for ten years has been signed by Governor Wilson. This means we will now to refine the vision for the Commission for the next few years. To that end, staff will be scheduling a meeting of Budget and Finance Subcommittee to address both a revised work program and a revised budget for this fiscal year and the near future. I would like to encourage any Commissioner that wants to participate to do so; let staff know so you can receive a full packet of material. You all receive a notice of each Subcommittee meeting. The meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday October 28 at 3 pm at the McCarty Company Conference Room. The cheesecake is a celebratory offering that was prepared by Debby Eddy of the Commission staff; she could not be here tonight.

PAT: Next meeting is Thursday, November 19, 1998 at 6:30 p.m. in the Jean Harvie Community Center in Walnut Grove.

Upcoming Events:

Free Fishing Day will be this Saturday, September 26.

Sandhill Crane Festival: Lodi High School, October 9-11, 1998: Field Trips, etc.

Note that Commissioner Broddrick brought a video of mitten crabs at the Pumps; it will be available at the end of the meeting.

5. **Attorney General's Report.**

PAT: Call on CARLA CARUSO.

6. **Executive Director's Report.**

MARGIT:

Material in the Mailing Packet:

Update on Budget for Last Fiscal Year; and update on current Fiscal Year

Response to Vice Chair Mello's questions about the lands in the Cosumnes Preserve

Memo regarding the status of the Prop 204 grants for public access and recreation in the Delta; funds were managed by Department of Parks and Recreation.

Material handed out at the Meeting:

Information has been developed for the CALFED Levee program which estimates the costs of bringing all the non-project levees up to PL84-99 standards. The Commission asked staff to develop this information, but the project was beyond the means of the Commission. This work has been carried out jointly by Murray Burns and Kienlen and Kjeldsen, Sinnock and Neudeck; two firms which have extensive experience in the Delta working on reclamation district levees.

A summary of the comments received on the Draft Environmental Document

An estimate of the total costs of Stage I (years 1 thru 7) of the CALFED program.

Meetings Attended:

Public Meeting on the proposed North Delta National Wildlife Refuge study area
Met with new Director of San Joaquin County COG--Julia Greene
Site Visit to Jepsen Prairie Preserve and Calhoun Cut Property of DFG
SWRCB first meeting on Statewide regulations to address use of Sludge/Biosolids
Site Visit to Cosumnes Preserve
North Delta landowners re: Flood Issues and CALFED Modeling of North Delta
Resources Agency: Delta Levee and Habitat Advisory Committee
Spoke at Walnut Grove Rotary
Delta Levee Road Task Force
Winter Island Site Visit to Observe Reuse of Dredged Material for Habitat Protection
Delta In-Channel Island Work Group
Meeting to Discuss Possible Revisions to DBW's High Water Operations/Delta Closure
Spoke at Rio Vista Lion's Club
Meeting with Senator Rainey's staff re Possible changes to SB 172/Abandoned Vessel Removal Program

CALFED Meetings Attended:

Levees CMARP
Public Meetings at Roberts Union Farm Center and Stockton
Assurances Work Group
Levees and Channels Work Group

BDAC
Public Meeting in Stockton
Subsidence Subgroup of Levees and Channels

Lori Clamurro has attended CALFED meetings:

Public meetings at Roberts Island and Stockton
Ecosystem Roundtable
Ecosystem Restoration Work Group
Public Affairs
Water Quality Technical Group
Water Transfers Work Group
BDAC Meeting in Stockton

She also attended:

Public Meeting on North Delta Wildlife Refuge
Site Visit to Jepsen Prairie Preserve and Calhoun Cut
Sacramento River Watershed Program Stakeholders Meeting
Splittail in the Yolo Bypass Meeting

Other Items of Interest:

Great Valley Center has awarded LEGACI grants: in the Delta area: \$45,000 to Yolo Land Trust for general support; \$20,000 to Yolo Basin Foundation to plan a visitor center; \$10,000 to Ducks Unlimited to advance wildlife-friendly land management; \$4,000 to Bass and Wolf to develop a learning map of the Delta.

Department of Conservation has given \$1.1 million dollars for the Agricultural Land Stewardship Program which will protect more than 1,000 ac of AG land. The projects are in Ventura County, near Escalon in San Joaquin County and near Davis in Yolo County.

1998 Marina Directory: Prepared by DBW; covers all marinas, statewide.

DBW's new PWC Newsletter: Two stroke engines and MBTE issues; new laws, etc. MBTE is also the focus of the July/August issue of Western Water.

Egeria Densa Removal Program: DWR is preparing the environmental document for DBW; the current estimated date for release of the environmental document is June 1999. There are concerns in the Contra Costa County "waterfront" community, however, based on the need to carry out scientific research and monitoring for the proposed program, the date had to be moved out.

PBS show: Setting a Course: The California Bay Delta, funded by the Water Education Foundation and others was aired recently. The video is available from the Water Education Foundation for \$25.

Update on Ad Hoc Group's Alternative Approach toward Habitat Restoration in the Delta: At your last meeting you reviewed a memo prepared by the Ad Hoc Group which includes representatives of the various Delta Water Agencies and your staff, working with the Natural Heritage Institute. The paper was presented to the CALFED BDAC at the Stockton meeting. There was general support of the concepts outlined in the paper and the Chair of BDAC directed staff to incorporate the ideas in the paper into the revised alternative currently being developed.

7. Pending Projects Memo.

PAT: The pending projects memo is for Commission Information Only. Are there any questions of staff, or any comments?

8. Update on State Legislation.

PAT: Call on Lori Clamurro.

LORI:

MARGIT: Re: Possible amendments to SB 172.

PAT: Commissioner questions? Public Comments? Commissioner Comments?

[PAT-- this item is for Commission Information Only; no action is needed.]

9. Briefing on CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Projects Funded to Date.

PAT: Call on Lori Calmurro.

LORI: I have prepared staff reports which describe: 1) information on Ecosystem Restoration projects in the Delta funded in 1995 and 1996, and 2) an update on the 1997 and 1998 Delta projects, and 3) a description of the Delta projects recommended for funding from the May 1998 application period.

PAT: Commissioner questions? Public Comments? Commissioner comments?

[PAT: This item is for Commission Information Only; no action is needed.]

10. Briefing on Grasslands Bypass Project.

PAT: Staff will present an update on the Grasslands Bypass project and the monitoring program. Call on Lori Calmurro.

LORI:

PAT: Commissioner questions? Public Comments? Commissioner comments?

[PAT--this item is for Commission Information Only; no action is required.]

11. Briefing on Issues of Concern to Delta Mosquito and Vector Control Districts Associated with CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program.

PAT: The four Districts that serve the Delta region jointly commented on issues of concern regarding restoration of tidal and managed wetland habitat areas. Call on MARGIT.

MARGIT: Restoration of wetland habitat can result in mosquito habitat. To prevent such a possibility, the four Districts that control mosquitos in the Delta area are working together and have offered to work with CALFED to ensure that public health in the Delta environs is protected. Dave Brown, Manager of the Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District will outline those issues, explain the concepts being developed and refined by the staffs of the four Districts, and be available to answer questions. Ed Luccessi, Asst Manager of the San Joaquin Mosquito and Vector Control District is also here to answer questions.

PAT: Call on Dave Brown of Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District; and Ed Luccessi, of San Joaquin County Mosquito and Vector Control District.

PAT: Commissioner questions? Public Comments? Commissioner comments?

[PAT--this item is for Commission Information Only; no action is needed]

12. Public Hearing on "Economic Impact of Recreation in the Delta".

PAT: The Commission will hold a public hearing on the last of three reports prepared on recreation in the Delta. The report was prepared with information gathered in the User Survey and was funded by the Department of Boating and Waterways and the Delta Protection Commission. Call on MARGIT.

MARGIT: As the Commission was preparing the Land Use and Resource Management plan for the Primary Zone of the Delta in 1993, 1994 and 1995, the Commission became concerned that there was no current information available on recreational uses in the Delta. To address the lack of current, Deltawide information, the Commission and the Department of Boating and Waterways worked together to fund several studies. First, the Commission staff prepared the Inventory of Recreational Facilities; all that information is available in a report and on the Commission's home page. Second, the Department of Parks and Recreation prepared and carried out a statewide User Survey; a summary of the report is available on the Commission's home page and there is a full report available from the Commission. This is the last of the reports generated from that information. Mr. Goldman took information gathered in the user survey and prepared the document before you tonight which describes the economic impacts of recreation in the Delta.

The Commission's oversight Subcommittee met earlier this evening to discuss the report and has the following comments:

The purpose of the meeting tonight is to allow the Commissioners to ask questions of the author; to allow the public to make comments on the report, and if appropriate, the Commission can accept the report subject to any necessary modification and corrections and make it available to the public.

PAT: Call on Don Nottoli, Chair of the Subcommittee, for his comments (and thank him for chairing the Subcommittee).

PAT: Call on George Goldman to make a brief presentation and answer questions from the Commission.

PAT: Open the Public Hearing.

PAT: Close the Public Hearing.

PAT: Bring back to the Commission for comments and possible acceptance for distribution.

13. Commissioner Comments/Announcements.

NOTE: Ryan Broddrick is bringing some written material about Mitten Crabs.

14. Adjournment.